

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

For Immediate Release

January 22, 2007

Contact Person

Elizabeth Altman
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Bonnie Zimmer, 52, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, was sentenced Friday by U.S. Magistrate Judge Stephen Crocker to three months in prison for smuggling contraband into the Federal Correctional Institution in Oxford. Zimmer pleaded guilty to this charge on November 21, 2006.

On June 24, 2006, Zimmer brought four \$100 bills and a medallion into the prison visiting room at FCI-Oxford in her purse. A video taken in the visiting room showed her husband, Michael Zimmer, a prison inmate, removing the bills and the medallion from her purse and concealing them in his shoe. Mr. Zimmer was later searched and the items were found.

In sentencing Ms. Zimmer to prison time, Magistrate Judge Crocker stated that other spouses need to know that they will go to jail if they bring contraband into the prison. On November 28, 2006, Mr. Zimmer was sentenced to ten additional months in prison for his role in the crime.

The charges against the Zimmers were the result of an investigation conducted by FCI-Oxford Investigative Services and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Altman.

#